



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

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Professor Joshua Lederberg
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Josh:

Eugene Garfield has just told me of your interest in citation indexes for genetics. I have been talking about them to human geneticists* for several years without striking a spark of interest except in Everett Dempster. Perhaps microbial genetics is a newer and tighter field than human genetics and better for a trial of citation indexing. On the other hand, Gates and the American Journal of Human Genetics together provide a nearly complete bibliography on human genetics.

I would be glad to help design a trial citation index for any field of genetics, but I think the field as a whole is probably too broad. What do you think?

Sincerely yours,

Gordon Allen

* Mainly to the Board of Directors of the Am. Soc. of Human Genetics.
Dempster is the only one who has been interested enough to write to me, but maybe some others have responded favorably.